

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 02912 151407Z

61

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SCCT-01 /095 W

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R 151315Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9060

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS TUNIS 2912

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, PO, CG

SUBJECT: FNLA COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN TUNIS

REF: TUNIS 2770, KINSHASA 952

1. AN FNLA COMMUNIQUE (FIRST PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS ON MAY 9 AND REPORTED IN TUNIS 2770) INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT "WE THINK THAT DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT ARE MORE USEFUL THAN ANY ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD ASSOCIATE EXTERNAL FORCES TO THE SOLUTION OF OUR PROBLEMS."

2. WE HAVE JUST SEEN UPI REPORT FOR MAY 11 DATED IN TUNIS (BUT NOT PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS) WHICH GAVE ACCOUNT OF FNLA COMMUNIQUE ISSUED EVENING OF MAY 10 IN WHICH, ACCORDING TO UPI, THE FLNA "TOOK NOTE OF THE INTENTION OF THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 02912 151407Z

INITIATIVE TO UNITE THE CHIEFS OF THE ANGOLAN LIBERA-

TION MOVEMENTS. NEVERTHELESS, GIVEN THE EVIDENT PARTIALITY AND LACK OF OBJECTIVITY AMONG CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE LISBON GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO OUR MOVEMENT, WHICH DOES NOT EXPECT ANY FAVOR FROM THEM, THE FNLA CATEGORICALLY REJECTS TAKING PART IN ANY MEETING OF THE THREE ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS TO WHICH A MEMBER OF THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ASSOCIATED. SUCH A MEETING WOULD RISK ENDING IN CONFUSION BECAUSE OF THE INTRIGUES WHICH WOULD NOT FAIL TO BE WOVEN IN BY THOSE INTERESTED IN FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS. THE MEETING IN WHICH THE FNLA IS READY TO PARTICIPATE OUGHT NOT TO BRING TOGETHER ANYONE BUT THE ANGOLAN PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, AFTER THE FASHION OF THE MEETING HELD AT MOMBASA, WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF A FOURTH PARTY."

3. MAY 13 PRESS CARRIED ACCOUNT OF HOLDEN ROBERTO'S REMARKS MADE MAY 11 ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM TUNIS. HE SAID THAT THE "MANEUVERS OF CERTAIN PORTUGUESE CIRCLES DESIGNED TO SOW CONFUSION AND DISCORD IN ANGOLA ARE DOOMED TO FAILURE," AND THAT THE "ANGOLANS REJECT THE INTERVENTIONS OF EXTERNAL FORCES WHICH TRY TO DICTATE SOLUTIONS TO THEM." REFERRING TO HIS VISIT TO TUNIS, ROBERTO SAID THAT HE HAD INFORMED PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA OF THE RESULTS OF HIS TOUR THROUGH CERTAIN ARAB COUNTRIES AND ADDED THAT THE MEETINGS HE HAD HAD WITH THE LEADERS OF THESE COUNTRIES DEALT WITH THE EXAMINATION OF THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE. "I AM VERY SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF THESE CONTACTS," HE SAID, "WHICH WERE FRUITFUL, FULL OF PROMISE." ACCORDING TO THE PRESS ACCOUNT, ROBERTO WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE NEED THE AID OF FRATERNAL AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES MORE THAN EVER. "THE MORAL SUPPORT ('CAUTION MORALE') OF THESE COUNTRIES IS MORE THAN NECESSARY IN ORDER TO GET OVER THE LAST OBSTACLES." FINALLY, IN REFERENCE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND TO THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FNLA AND THE MPLA, ROBERTO SAID THAT IT IS UP TO THE PEOPLE TO HAVE ITS SAY AND CHOOSE THE LEADERS WHO BEST GUARD ITS INTERESTS.

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PAGE 03 TUNIS 02912 151407Z

4. MAY 13 PRESS ALSO CARRIED UNATTRIBUTED, UNDATE-LINED ARTICLE QUOTING STATEMENTS REPORTEDLY MADE BY JONAS SAVIMBI, PRESIDENT OF UNITA, IN LUANDA IN WHICH HE REJECTED THE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENTS OF THE THREE MOVEMENTS TO MEET UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE SAVIMBI EXPLAINED HIS REJECTION ON GROUNDS THAT SUCH A MEETING AT LISBON'S INITIATIVE WOULD DEPRIVE THE

THREE MOVEMENTS OF ALL AUTHORITY IN THE COUNTRY AND HE
REITERATED HIS SUPPORT FOR A MEETING OF THE THREE
PRESIDENTS AT THEIR OWN INITIATIVE.
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